THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) A news item captioned "Bombs worth Rs. 32 crores in Army trash bin" has come to the notice of the Government. The news item is based on observations contained in para 39 of the C & AG Report No. 8 of 1996 for the period ended 31 March, 1995.

(b) Rs. 32 crores is the value of 39,485 rounds of two versions of a tank ammunition manufactured using primer 'Y' based on technology transfer from abroad. The initial lots of primer 'Y' were manufactured in the presence and direct supervision of the foreign technical experts and to their satisfaction. Primer lots 1 to 25 were used in these 39,485 rounds of the ammunition which were issued to the army, after successful proof testing of both the primer and the ammunition rounds.

2. Primer 'Y' from one of the lots which had also been successfully proof tested was used as a sub-system in the testing of a third version of the ammunition, which was under development indigenously, when an accident occurred. Investigations revealed that the accident was most probably due to an operation called "beading" not having been carried out in the manufacture of primer 'Y'. Arising out of this, "beading" is being carried out in the manufacture of primer 'Y' from lot 26 onwards.

3. Out of 39,485 rounds of the first two versions of ammunition issued to the army, some rounds have already been usedup. No problem has been reported. However, following the accident while testing the third version of the ammunition under indigenous development, 28,377 rounds of first two versions of the ammunition lying in the army's ammunition depots which have the unbeaded primer 'Y' have been segregated. This has been done as a measure of abundant caution. Also, rectification work involving replacement of the primer from these rounds has commenced.

[Translation]

Maintenance and Construction of N.H. in Maharashtra

3382. SHRI HANSRAJ AHIR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has sought increase in the demands for grants and agency charges for the maintenance and construction of National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). The allocation of funds for development of National Highways have been of the order of about 40% of the requirements. As such it has not been possible to fully meet the demands of the States including State of Maharashtra.

[English]

Eradication of Blindness, Leprosy and T.B.

3383. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has sanctioned loan for three big schemes for eradication of leprosy, control of blindness and eradication of tuberculosis in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government for early utilisation of the said loan; and

(d) the time by which the said schemes are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d).The World Bank has sanctioned loans for National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) and National Blindness Control Programme (NBCP) as per details given as under :

1. NLEP - Rs. 302 crores for the period 1993-94 to March 1997.
2. NBCP - Rs. 554.36 crores for the period of 1994 to 2000.

The Government is seeking World Bank loan for an amount of Rs. 749.28 crores for the implementation of the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme which all be for 5 years beginning from January, 1997.

The implementation of the Programmes under the World Bank funding are progressing accordingly to the schedule agreed to in the negotiations between Government of India and World Bank.

Board of Apprenticeship Training

3384. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 'Board of Apprenticeship Training' has been created and controlled by the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether Government of Maharashtra has requested to transfer this Scheme to State Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) The four Boards of Apprenticeship/Practical Training

at Mumbai, Calcutta, Kanpur and Chennai have been created by Central Government under Societies Registration Act as autonomous bodies.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

[Translation]

Teaching of Gond and Bhil Language in Schools

3385. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the mother tongue of Gond and Bhil tribals of Madhya Pradesh is Gondi and Bill;

(b) whether the Government have any scheme to introduce these said language in schools with a view to encourage them;

(c) if so, the time by which the said scheme will be implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the information received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh the tribal languages of Gondi and Bhili have been introduced in 2 districts.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

IGNCA

3386. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the affairs of Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) were analysed in the press report published in the *Indian Express* dated 24.9.1996; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) Government is looking into the matter.

Bloodless Brain Surgery

3387. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether life-threatening conditions like deep seated brain tumours and blood vessel malformations can now be treated with a bloodless form of neurosurgery called stereotactic radio-surgery which does not require a single incision in the patients scalp; and

(b) if so, the details regarding this technique and the names of hospitals in which this type of bloodless form of brain surgery is available in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) As per information received from Indian Council of Medical Research, some types of deep seated Tumors such as acoustic tumors, meningiomas and metastatic tumors are reported to be treated by Stereotactic radio surgery. This type of surgery is done by two techniques i.e. X-knife and Gama Knife. The X-knife type teachnique is available at Christian Medical College, Vellore and Appllo Hospitals at Madras and Delhi.

Modernisation of Kandla Port

3388. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has formulated any scheme for modernisation of Kandla Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the financial assistance provided by the Government so far for this purpose; and

(c) the progress made in the modernisation of the port so far?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (g). The following Major Schemes have been sanctioned during 8th Plan for development and modernisation of Kandla Port. The details are as under :

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Crores)	Date of Sanction	Present Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Construction of additional cargo berth at Kandla Port.	38.82	9-6-94	Scheduled to be completed in June, 1998.
2.	Providing 66KV/11KV Electric sub-station with all equipment etc. at Kandla.	15.74	12-7-94	Scheduled to be completed in July, 1997